

Public Hearing: April 28, 2008

## **F A C T   S H E E T**

**TITLE:** Resolution approving the acquisition of a conservation easement over the Beal Slough Floodplain

**SPONSOR:**  
Public Works & Utilities Dept.  
Lower Platte South NRD

**OTHER DEPARTMENTS AFFECTED:**

**OPPONENTS:** None known

**APPLICANT:**  
Public Works & Utilities Dept.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**  
Approval

**REASON FOR LEGISLATION:**

This resolution is to approve the acquisition of a 7-acre permanent conservation easement over a portion of the Beal Slough floodplain south of London Road and east of 56<sup>th</sup> Street by the City and the Lower Platte South NRD.

## **D I S C U S S I O N**

The purpose of the conservation easement is to preserve a portion of the Beal Slough floodplain and floodway generally west of Beal Slough for flood storage, flood conveyance, tree masses, open space and other natural and beneficial functions of the floodplain. This land is within the “Existing Urban Area” as it relates to floodplain regulation, and thus would otherwise not receive regulatory protection for flood storage, conveyance, and protection of the minimum flood corridor. The land is also immediately west of land acquired in 2006 by the Parks and Recreation Department.

The City’s portion of the purchase comes from stormwater bond issue funds identified for this purpose and was included in the capital improvement program as “Purchase of Easements or Fee Title for Floodplain/Floodprone Areas.” State statutes require that conservation easements be approved by the appropriate governing body, including a finding of conformance with the comprehensive plan by the local planning commission. The Planning Commission is scheduled to review this item for conformance with the Comprehensive Plan at their meeting on April 23, 2008.

**POLICY OR PROGRAM CHANGE:** No

**COST OF TOTAL PROJECT:**    \$233,600

**SOURCE OF FUNDS:**

**CITY:** \$116,800

**NON CITY (NRD):** \$116,800

**FACT SHEET PREPARED BY:**

Nicole Fleck-Tooze, Special Project Administrator

**REVIEWED BY:**

Director of Public Works/Utilities